



COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022

The Columbia City Council conducted a meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at City Hall, 1737 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and the following members of Council were present: The Honorable Howard E. Duvall, Jr., The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tempore, The Honorable William Brennan, The Honorable Aditi Bussells, The Honorable Tina N. Herbert, and The Honorable Joe E. Taylor, Jr. Also present were Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Moore Hammond, City Clerk. This meeting was advertised in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The Honorable Edward H. McDowell, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tempore offered the invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda subject to deferring **Item 18** and **Item 23**. **Item 20** was withdrawn.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Diane Wiley, Belvedere Neighborhood President said we need the roads to go over the train tracks on Beltline and the other one down Beltline and Main Street. It is a traffic problem. We want to make sure you all include those.

Mayor Rickenmann said those sections are part of our long-term safety program that we are working on with Senator Harpootlian and at the federal level. That is going to improve the safety around the crossings. You will be seeing some improvements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Council is asked to approve the March 8, 2022 Work Session, March 15, 2022 Council Meeting, and April 19, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes. – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the March 8, 2022 Work Session, March 15, 2022 Council Meeting, and April 19, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes.



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PRESENTATIONS

2. National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed the month of May 2022 as National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month, the week of May 16 – 22, 2022 as Bike to Work Week, and May 20, 2022 as Bike to Work Day in the City of Columbia.

3. National Historic Preservation Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

2022 Mabel Payne Historic Preservation Award - Ms. Amy Moore, Principal Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department

Ms. Amy Moore, Principal Planner for the Planning and Development Services Department said as part of Historic Preservation Month, we give out the Mabel Payne Award. Mabel was a city employee whose work in the 1950's laid the foundation for the preservation of so much of what still exists today. Our award winners may work behind the scenes or front and center but their work has had significant impact on Columbia and its historic built environment through their outstanding efforts in education, leadership, conservation, or stewardship. This year, I'm very pleased to announce that our award recipient for conservation and stewardship is Mr. Richard Burts: a local developer whose rehabilitation projects include 701 Whaley, the Palmetto Compress Warehouse, buildings in Five Points, Mill Houses in the Granby Mill District, and others. Richard looks at historic buildings, often ones which are failing or regarded as undevelopable, and sees amazing possibilities. Please join me in thanking Richard for his decades of work, revitalizing historic buildings and giving them new life and energy.

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed the month of May 2022 as National Historic Preservation Month in the City of Columbia.

4. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann said today I had the opportunity to go to the State House and support our fellow council member, Dr. Bussells as she received a proclamation from our delegation proclaiming Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. She is the first Asian American Pacific Islander elected to public office in South Carolina.



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Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed the month of May 2022 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Columbia.

Councilor Bussells said I hope that all of you will join me this month in visiting Asian American businesses in the city and learning more about the Asian American community in Columbia and about the diversity and the rich traditions that so many immigrants bring to this country to achieve the American dream.

5. 2022 Small Business Week Proclamation - The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann, Mayor

Mayor Rickenmann and the members of City Council proclaimed the week of May 2-6, 2022 as Small Business Week in the City of Columbia.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 6 THROUGH 13

Upon a single motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to approve **Consent Agenda Items 6 through 13**.

6. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase Two 2022 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad-Cab 4X4 Trucks for the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant, as requested by the Fleet Services Division on March 31, 2022. Award to Performance Automotive Group, dba Performance Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram using the SC State Contract in the amount of \$72,666.00. The vendor is located in Clinton, NC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant - Autos, Trucks, Heavy Equipment - Capital (5516208-658500). The original budget amount is \$72,666.00.

7. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase a Vacuum Truck with Trailer Mounted Jetter and Accessories for the Wastewater Maintenance Division, as requested by the Fleet Services Division on March 14, 2022. Award to Carolina Tractor and Equipment / Southern Vac, using the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association Heavy Equipment Procurement Program Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$82,350.00. The vendor is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: Utilities Wastewater Maintenance - Machinery and Equipment Capital (5516205-658300). The original budget amount is \$82,350.00.



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8. Council is asked to approve a Contract to Purchase 28 Getac Toughbooks, as requested by the Columbia Police Department on March 23, 2022. Award to Synnex Corporation, using the General Services Administration Multiple Award Schedule Cooperative Contract in the amount of \$131,202.59. The vendor is located in Greenville, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Justice Grant - Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program - Computer Equipment, Hardware & Peripherals (2659999-9231000021-627500). The original budget amount is \$134,487.49.

9. Council is asked to approve an Agreement for Consulting Services for the Assembly Street Railroad Separation Project, as requested by the City Manager's Office. Award to the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) in the amount of \$100,000.00. – *Approved*

Funding Source: City Manager's Office - Special Contracts (1011102-638500). The original budget amount is \$100,000.00.

10. Council is asked to approve a Contract for Project SS7502; Summerlea Drive Sewer Replacement, as requested by Columbia Water on November 22, 2021. Award to AAA Utility and Construction, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$1,037,618.65, which includes contingency. The firm is located in Columbia, SC. – *Approved*

Funding Source: FEMA (2539999-SS750201-638400). The original budget amount is \$1,037,618.65.

AAA Utility and Construction, LLC is the prime contractor and will provide sewer replacement services at 58.77% (\$554,416.68) of the total contract amount.

The following subcontractor will provide additional services:

Eargle's Hauling & Landscaping, a Minority Business Enterprise of Columbia, SC, will provide grading and site work services at 41.23% (\$388,873.00) of the total contract amount.

11. Ordinance No.: 2022-029 - Granting an encroachment to Lafaye Homes for the use of the right of way area of the 1000 block of Bryan Street and the 2200 block of Clark Street for the installation and maintenance of sidewalks, landscaping, and irrigation adjacent to single-family residences under construction at 1011, 1013, 1015 and 1017 Bryan Street, Richland County TMS#09012-10-16, 09012-10-32, 09012-10-33 and 09012-10-34 - *First reading approval was given on April 19, 2022 – Approved on second reading.*



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12. Ordinance No.: 2022-030 - Granting an encroachment to GSM Properties, LLC, for the use of the right of way area of the 1200 block of Taylor Street for the installation and maintenance of brick pavers and concrete sidewalks, landscaping, irrigation and a suspended pavement system to support the new landscaping adjacent to 1216 and 1218 Taylor Street, Richland County TMS# 09014-09-03 and 09014-09-04 - *First reading approval was given on April 19, 2022 – Approved on second reading.*
13. Ordinance No.: 2022-031 - Granting an encroachment to TownPark at BullStreet, LLC, for the use of the right of way area of the 30 block of Fig Street for the installation and maintenance of two landings adjacent to two new residences under construction at 32 and 34 Townpark Circle, Richland County TMS# 11404-09-10 and 11404-09-11 - *First reading approval was given on April 19, 2022 – Approved on second reading.*

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

14. Ordinance No.: 2022-013 - Granting an encroachment to Mungo Homes Properties, LLC and Eastfair Development, LLC for the use of the right of way areas of the 500 Block of Eastfair Drive, 600 Block of Legacy Park Court and 1400 Block of Sandra Drive, adjacent to 635, 636, and 652 Legacy Park Court, and 1445 Sandra Drive for the installation and maintenance of guest parking spaces, Richland County TMS#19104-11-47, 19201-13-01, and 19201-13-23 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-013 - Granting an encroachment to Mungo Homes Properties, LLC and Eastfair Development, LLC for the use of the right of way areas of the 500 Block of Eastfair Drive, 600 Block of Legacy Park Court and 1400 Block of Sandra Drive, adjacent to 635, 636, and 652 Legacy Park Court, and 1445 Sandra Drive for the installation and maintenance of guest parking spaces, Richland County TMS#19104-11-47, 19201-13-01, and 19201-13-23.

15. Ordinance No.: 2022-034 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Reinstatement and Seventeenth Amendment to the Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Meyers 2001, LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/- acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02 – *Approved on first reading.*



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Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-034 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Reinstatement and Seventeenth Amendment to the Purchase Agreement between the City of Columbia and Bright-Meyers 2001, LLC for the sale of 5.97 +/-acres (Capital City Stadium), Richland County TMS #11204-02-02.

16. Ordinance No.: 2022-035 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-1 Prohibited acts in parks (8) Alcohol – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Ms. Herbert and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-035 - Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-1 Prohibited acts in parks (8) Alcohol.

17. Ordinance No.: 2022-036 - Granting an encroachment to Lee and Maple, LLC, for the use of the right of way area of the 2700 block of Lee Street for the installation and maintenance of four on-street parking spaces, two brick columns and sidewalks adjacent to 803 Maple Street, Richland County TMS#11316-03-04 – *Approved on first reading.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Brennan, Council voted unanimously to give first reading approval to Ordinance No.: 2022-036 - Granting an encroachment to Lee and Maple, LLC, for the use of the right of way area of the 2700 block of Lee Street for the installation and maintenance of four on-street parking spaces, two brick columns and sidewalks adjacent to 803 Maple Street, Richland County TMS#11316-03-04.

18. Ordinance No.: 2022-047 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute the Second Amendment of License Agreement and Memorandum of Lease between Core Campus I, LLC and the City of Columbia – *Deferred*

RESOLUTIONS

19. Resolution No.: R-2022-037 - Approval for Release and Abandonment of a Portion of an Existing City of Columbia Sanitary Sewer Easement for CIP Project #SS757 and CIP Project# SS7261 (Lake Katherine Sewer Line Capacity Enhancement Project); 4519 Bellefield Lane; Richland County TMS#13914-01-15; CF#250-83B and CF#250-378 – *Approved*



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Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-037 - Approval for Release and Abandonment of a Portion of an Existing City of Columbia Sanitary Sewer Easement for CIP Project #SS757 and CIP Project# SS7261 (Lake Katherine Sewer Line Capacity Enhancement Project); 4519 Bellefield Lane; Richland County TMS#13914-01-15; CF#250-83B and CF#250-378.

20. Resolution No.: R-2022-038 - Authorizing the City Manager to execute the Second Amendment of License Agreement and Memorandum of Lease between Core Campus I, LLC and the City of Columbia – *Withdrawn*

EVENT RESOLUTION

21. Resolution No.: R-2022-033 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Main Street Latin Festival in the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Main Street, and the eastern half block of the 1100 block of Washington Street on August 27, 2022 with a rain date contingency of September 3, 2022 – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution No.: R-2022-033 - Authorizing consumption of beer and wine beverages only at the Main Street Latin Festival in the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Main Street, and the eastern half block of the 1100 block of Washington Street on August 27, 2022 with a rain date contingency of September 3, 2022.

APPOINTMENTS

22. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Dr. Bussells, Council voted unanimously to approve the reappointment of Sandra Sims, Hal Stevenson, Joelle-Ryan Cook, and Edna Langley and the appointment of Jesse Bullard, Shelly Nutt, and Justin Deyo to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee for a term of two years.

23. Climate Protection Action Committee – *Deferred*



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24. Edventure Children's Museum – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of The Honorable Aditi Bussells to the Edventure Children's Museum Board.

25. Historic Columbia Foundation – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Gwen Thurmond to the Historic Columbia Foundation Board for a term of four years.

26. Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Taylor, Council voted unanimously to approve the reappointment of Terry Davis, Drew Hampton, Chad Easley, Matthew Bridges and Joseph Kendrick and the appointment of Johnathan Tyler, Sharon Thompson, Kelly Glynn, and Hank Davis to the Hospitality Tax Advisory Committee for a term of two years.

27. Planning Commission – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Ms. Herbert, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Steve Cook and Ryan Causey to the Planning Commission for a term of three years.

28. Task Force to Prevent and End Homelessness – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mayor Rickenmann and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of George Whitehead (Department of Probations and Patrol), Allison Farrell (Department of Mental Health), John Wilkerson (Elmwood/Downtown Coalition of Neighborhoods), Chief Holbrook (Columbia Police Department), Steve Cook (Five Points Association), Matt Kennell (City Center Partnership), Brett Kloos (USC), Judge Amy McCulloch (Probate), and Judge Jean Burns (Magistrate) to the Task Force to Prevent and End Homelessness.



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OTHER MATTERS

29. Council is asked to approve the Installation of One Speed Hump on Randolph Street, as requested by the Public Works Department. – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mayor Rickenmann, Council voted unanimously to approve the installation of one speed hump on Randolph Street, as requested by the Public Works Department.

30. Council is asked to approve the Installation of Three Speed Humps on Howell Court, as requested by the Public Works Department. – *Approved*

Upon a motion made by Mr. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Duvall, Council voted unanimously to approve the installation of three speed humps on Howell Court, as requested by the Public Works Department.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

31. City Manager's Report for May 3, 2022 - Ms. Teresa Wilson, City Manager - *Received as information. No action was taken.*

See attached report.

Councilor Taylor said the City Manager and the Police Chief also reported that the first round of interviews for the Pathways Unit are happening this week. This will put five mental health professionals into our Police Department to respond to homelessness on the streets and mental health crises. This is a fantastic program and one that Columbia will very much appreciate.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REFERRALS, REPORTS, AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilor McDowell reported that the Administrative Policy Committee met on April 19, 2022 and introduced three substantive items. No recommendations were made but a subsequent meeting will be held on May 17, 2022.

Councilor Taylor reported that the Tax Modernization Committee met this morning and held a public hearing. We received good public feedback and made great progress. Our next meeting will be on May 19, 2022 at 2 p.m. We should be prepared to submit the final recommendations to Council after that meeting and start discussing implementation.



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Mayor Rickenmann concurred with Mr. Taylor. I have to recognize the comments made by Mr. Steven Gilchrist, Chairman of the South Carolina African American Chamber of Commerce. He talked about how taxes have affected the 900 minority owned businesses in this community. They did a survey and the two main things that are affecting growth in the business community are access to capital and high taxes. This all plays a key role as we continue to talk about affordability, investment, and growth.

Councilor Taylor reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met today. We will submit a more formal written report for the next council meeting. The meeting went hand in hand with the tax committee. City staff is working hard to come up with ways to make it easier for small businesses to start and be successful in Columbia. I think they'll have an announcement on some staff packages that will be implemented this month. In regards to Community Development, we heard the plans for fiscal year 2023 and the goal is to wrap up the flood programs between now and January.

Mayor Rickenmann said on next Thursday, the Wiley Kennedy Foundation is hosting a small business expo at the Wiley Kennedy Family Center at 1037 Eastman Street, Columbia 29203 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. If you are a small business owner or thinking about starting a business, this meeting is for you. There will be free services and small business professionals available to assist you.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Gwen Singletary, Wiley-Kennedy Foundation Executive Director said we are also going to have a roundtable discussion on May 24, 2022 with Chief Holbrook and Sheriff Lott. We will discuss how the community and law enforcement can work better and plans to go forward. It is important to continue to work together. Law enforcement in this City has been supportive. When we have meetings and events, they are there to help us.

Mr. Jared Johnson asked if City Council is taking steps to make sure that any municipal revenue cuts or tax cuts will also benefit those who rent. I know that there is a huge tax burden on business owners and people who own large pieces of property but what about renters.

Mayor Rickenmann replied the whole plan of tax modernization is not about the homeowner, it's about the non-owner occupied, which is commercial and renters. That is what we are targeting to bring down to equal the homeowners. We are trying so that the small businesses, the renters and the non-homeowners are at an equal level.



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Ms. Doreen Skelton expressed her concerns about the homeless population. I have talked to some of the City Council members and City Manager about what I can do to help the City move forward in helping the homeless get off the streets.

Mayor Rickenmann said I applaud your compassion and your willingness to help. Hopefully we can find a role for you to help us achieve the goal to reduce homelessness. I wish we could say we could eliminate it but the reality of that is homelessness has been around for a long time. Our goal is to reduce it and make sure that we have the ability to take care of the folks who need it and to make sure they get to the wraparound services they need. We want to make sure that all of our community partners also have the same goals and accountability because we all need to be held accountable to make sure that we are making a difference.

Councilor Bussells said as we are getting the task force together, there is going to be plenty of opportunities to participate. We are going to have subject matter experts and community experts provide comments on the final plan. We want to make sure it's something that is community led but also evidence based. I have been trying to understand the number of beds that are available in our city and if those beds are meeting the demands of those experiencing homelessness. I met with the Richland County public defender, as well as a homeless advocate and provider to learn more about why people don't engage in services and what are some policies that are in place that may not actually be doing what they are intended to do. We have continued to meet with Homeless No More and MIRCI to understand the root cause. We want to ensure that we are dealing with this in a compassionate way, but also recognizing that this is something that is very eminent and needs to be addressed soon. When you shared the idea of the tiny homes, I reached out to someone in Portland, Oregon, who has found success in creating those homes and different affordable housing options. We know that housing is a key component of homelessness. I want to be intentional and make sure we have results after the task force report is released. I would love to get you engaged with helping and bringing some of those ideas that you may have.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Duvall and seconded by Mr. McDowell, Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 5:32 p.m. for the discussion of **Items 32 and 33**.

32. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements pursuant to S. C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2) - *Received as information. No action was taken.*

Farrow Road Property



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33. Discussion of the employment of an employee pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(1) -
Received as information. No action was taken.

*Columbia Police Department
Municipal Court Judges*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk